

The Press and Banner.

BY HUGH WILSON.

ABBEVILLE, S. C.

TILLMAN TAKES A HAND.

HE WRITES A LETTER IN THE INTEREST OF GOV. EVANS.

Be Persuaded to "Give an Expression of His Opinion" of the Situation—Advised All Reformers to Vote for the Governor.

COLUMBIA, S. C., Sept. 3.—The following correspondence explains itself: Columbia, S. C., Sept. 1st, 1896. Hon. B. R. Tillman, Trenton, N. J.: Dear Sir—Recognizing you as the originator and trusted leader of the Reform movement in South Carolina, and having full confidence in your judgment and political foresight, we respectfully ask an expression of opinion from you regarding the senatorial race and the effect its result may have upon the future of the Reform movement in this State and in the nation. We know your reluctance to interfere in this race and your determination to avoid anything like dictation, as has been shown by your public utterances; and as in the past, your wise leadership and advice have brought the Reform movement safely through grave perils, we feel that you should now take the helm and give an expression to your fellow citizens of your opinion of the situation.

M. B. McSweeney, James Norton, W. T. C. Bates, J. Gary Watts, W. A. Neal, J. Wm. Stokes, A. C. Latimer, A. W. Jones, Abbeville, S. C. G. P. Scarborough, Darlington, S. C. J. W. McCown, Florence, S. C. C. H. Winkler, Camden, S. C. B. F. Hollis, Aiken, S. C. W. W. Williams, Aiken, S. C. W. H. Mauldin, Hampton, S. C. A. F. H. Duke, Orangeburg, S. C. I. W. Bowman, Orangeburg, S. C. W. W. Cassels, Chester, S. C. G. D. Bellinger, Barnwell, S. C. T. Y. Williams, Lancaster, S. C. S. W. Scruggs, Greenville, S. C. J. M. Harrelson, Spartanburg, S. C. E. J. Dennis, Berkeley, S. C. J. B. Morrison, Berkeley, S. C. J. G. Long, Union, S. C. W. A. Nicholson, Union, S. C. J. A. Sligh, Newberry, S. C. Robert Aldrich, Brwell, S. C. C. W. Garris, Smaok's, S. C. A. H. Williams, Williamsburg Co. W. J. Jones, Richland, S. C. W. A. Bennett, Spartanburg, S. C. J. D. M. Shaw, Laurens, S. C. O. G. Thompson, Laurens, S. C. H. L. Farley, Spartanburg, S. C. J. H. B. Davis, Edgefield, S. C. T. C. Robinson, Pickens, S. C. J. W. Ashby, Anderson, S. C. E. B. Stackhouse, Marion, S. C.

Trenton, N. C., Sept. 2, 1896. To Messrs. M. B. McSweeney, James Norton, W. T. C. Bates, J. Gary Watts, W. A. Neal, J. A. Sligh, J. D. M. Shaw, A. C. Latimer and others.

Gentlemen: Your letter of this date has just been received, and as its tenor demands prompt answer, I reply at once. I had intended to say and do nothing in the senatorial race, but I recognize in you, my strong personal and political friends, the right to call upon me both for advice and work, if need be. What I may say may serve only to give an explanation of the causes that have produced a threatened disaster rather than avert it. You ask me to "take the helm" when the ship is already in the breakers. As a true man I must do so, even though at this late day I might well ask why you have not called on me sooner. I regard the election of Governor Evans to the Senate now as a political necessity. I say this without the slightest degree of disparagement to his opponent. There is necessarily a difference of opinion among our people as to the fitness and qualifications of these two gentlemen for the high office named. But this is not a personal contest, and Governor Evans' alleged shortcomings and Judge Earle's qualifications cannot now enter as factors in the consideration of the question by the true Reformers of the State. To these I address myself because I know too well that nothing I can say will have any weight with those who have fought me with such intense bitterness in the past and who now fight Evans as the exponent of Reform. The Reform movement had its origin in the demand of the people, the common people, for recognition in governmental affairs. It swept the State and assumed absolute control of all its departments. General Earle opposed it with bitterness in 1890, but his manly acquiescence in the result, with respect and esteem of all his opponents, so much so that he has since been honored by an election to a judgeship. He cannot therefore complain that the Reformers are ungrateful. The question is, has he earned the United States senatorship, and is he in sympathy with the men who are to give it to him if he receives it?

Herein lies the essence of the whole matter, and he himself, time and again on the stump, has declared emphatically, "I am not a Reformer," thus making a subtle appeal to his old supporters by an avowal of still being one of them and repudiating those who had honored him.

When the campaign opened at Manning, General Earle withdrew from the race because he felt that he could not hope to win against Governor Evans alone, and when he re-entered it at the last moment, when he had been informed of Mr. Duncan's entry and speech, indicating a fight between Reformers by which he could hope to profit.

He did not enter the canvass actively until he had watched its course for two weeks, and with subsequent events the public are familiar. Suffice it to say, that while Mr. Duncan hung on like a sleuth hound and doubtless fully expected to be elected, his role has been that of the cat who pulls chestnuts out of the fire for others to eat, and he has injured the Reform movement more than any man who has ever been in it. While he has had the satisfaction of being patted on the back by The News and Courier and The State, as having "done the work," while Earle got the votes, the spectacle has been presented of the man who was selected by the people to take the place and assume leadership in the State being attacked by slander; first the Anti newspapers and then have him slandered repeated from every stump by a Reformer who failed to

furnish any proof. While it is a well known principle of logic that you can not prove a negative, it has been demanded of Governor Evans to prove his innocence when there was no evidence to prove him guilty. He has committed the fatal blunder, contrary to my advice, of noticing Mr. Duncan just enough to keep him as a factor in the election. He failed to notice the only charge that was really of any moment, viz.: What he said to have said to Mixson.

Governor Evans entered upon the duties of his office pledged to enforce the dispensary law and continued the policy I had followed. He had a difficult role to perform and it was impossible for him to give satisfaction. He had tried to placate the Conservatives, and yet his efforts to enforce the dispensary law and the use of the metropolitan police in Charleston enraged opponents in all the cities and towns. He thus made enemies while he failed to retain the support of his friends. Entering the race for the Senate as the logical candidate of the Reform party, he alone has been fought by the opposition and in addition the strange spectacle has been presented of two prominent and popular State officers fighting him secretly or openly while he has had no assistance whatever, either from his present colleagues or any of the local leaders. There has been no organization. Every local candidate was either trading him off to gain Conservative support, or keeping quiet so as not to give offence. He has been the only standard bearer we have had as a party, and therefore with his possible defeat will go the defeat of the party. When he entered the race, the administration of the governor's office and his services and abilities; as displayed in the Constitutional convention, left him without a rival, except the two appeared at the last moment, as I have indicated. Now, what will be the moral effect of his defeat? First, the Reform movement will lose the prize which is justly its own, the place in the United States senate for six years. This cannot be denied, because General Earle has repudiated with scorn that he is a Reformer. Second, the Reform party will lose prestige outside of the State and will show that it cannot under its own rules and regulations conduct the election of senator. Third, the Reform movement will be disgraced in the eyes of the world, for the man whom it has honored as governor will go down under the accusation of personal and political crimes, which while not proven, had yet caused his fellow citizens to declare him guilty by their votes. Those Reformers who from personal motives, either of securing political support for themselves or from animosity to Governor Evans have voted against him in the first primary, must determine, and of course they will determine, their own course of action. I will simply ask them one or two questions. If Governor Evans did not appear to be the proper and best candidate and the strongest candidate, why did they not put up some other good Reformer?

Second, if, under the rules of the party, the race for the Senate could be had between General Earle and several prominent Reformers whom it could mention, could General Earle be elected? Third, if General Earle is not a Reformer and cannot be expected to give recognition as senator to Reformers, what are we to gain by sending him to the Senate? Fourth, if Reformers in office fight each other and Reformers in the ranks vote against their party, how much longer will there be any Reform party left? I make the prediction that if Governor Evans is defeated that it is the beginning of the end, and the three daily papers which have coddled our people into the belief that this is a great victory for Reform will sing a different tune hereafter. "A house divided against itself cannot stand."

In conclusion, I feel constrained to point out to those who may be disposed to criticize me for writing this letter that while I am trying to represent all people of the State without regard to party differences, the war on me from that faction continues. Their newspapers have never let up, and while this is the case I can never hope to win their good will. I would be glad to see the present party lines destroyed and have given evidence of that in the Constitutional Convention and otherwise, but I know I must depend upon those who have been my friends in the past, and my reason for writing as I have is because I wish to point out that the disintegration of the Reform movement is inevitable unless internecine strife and jealousies are thrown aside.

B. R. TILLMAN.

Sell Your Cotton Slowly.

We beg our farmers to read very particularly the following paragraphs from Rixford & Co's last cotton letter from New York. In these matters Rixford & Co. are extremely reliable. The course of prices in the immediate future will depend, not so much upon speculation here or abroad, as upon the action of the Southern holders of cotton. We are firm believers in a small crop and in much higher prices than the extent of the yield shall have been approximately ascertained. But holders in the South who persist in the policy of forcing their cotton upon the unwilling market, need not be surprised if prices should go lower. This, it seems to us, is the season of the year when the Southern farmer to keep his cotton off the market as long as possible. We think it will make the difference of at least a cent a pound whether he sells his cotton in September or in December. Many of the shrewdest and most conservative traders here are predicting 10 cents a pound for cotton before Christmas. The bureau report on the 10th of September is likely to enlighten the world as to the real value of cotton.

Fusion in Indiana.

INDIANAPOLIS, Sept. 1.—The Democrats and Populists of this State yesterday agreed to unite on the electoral ticket. The committee of 13 appointed at the recent State convention of the Populists, and about 20 other representatives of the party, met with Chairman Holt of the Democratic State committee and several of the Democratic nominees for State offices, and after various propositions had been made back and forth, it was agreed that the electoral ticket shall be divided between the two parties.

Murdered For Money.

UNIONTOWN, Pa., Sept. 1.—Frank Morris, aged 18 years, was hanged here at 1:30 p. m. for the murder two years ago of Bernard Loker, a farmer of Chestnut Ridge. The object was robbery. Morris was a neighbor and believed Loker had money secreted about his house.

MR. DUNCAN'S REPLY.

RECAPITULATES HIS CHARGES AGAINST GOVERNOR EVANS.

Says He Will Prove Every Charge He Has Made Against the Governor Before the Legislature If Given a Chance.

COLUMBIA, S. C., Sept. 4.—This seems to be a day of pronouncements in political circles. Now comes Mr. John T. Duncan in reply to Senator Tillman, in which he reiterates all the charges made against Governor Evans on the stump. The document given the papers by Mr. Duncan reads as follows:

"HANDS OFF!"

None are so blind as those who will not see. But when those who know, and see, and have the proof before them day by day, hide these things and attempt to mislead the people by partisan appeals where must the condemnation fall?

With due respect to Senator Tillman, I must say that his course in this matter is a mistaken one. He can't make wrong right; he can't make the guilty innocent, unless his pardon can blot out guilt.

Tillman says "the spectacle has been presented of the man who was selected by the people to take my place and assume leadership in the State, being slandered repeatedly from every stump by a Reformer who failed to furnish any proof."

I pray, Senator Tillman, specify. Was it slander to show by the house and senate journals that he voted against you and your friends and for your enemies or opponents on the board of agriculture and that he voted to postpone the acceptance of the Clemson bequest, a gift to the farmers of more than \$100,000?

Is it slander to show the recent date of his partial conversion to Reform? Is it slander to show by the senate journal that after his partial conversion to Reform, he led the fight against you while you were making desperate efforts to elect a Reform judge on the supreme bench? Yet at Spartanburg he admitted that he was paying off a "personal obligation" while the people might be damned.

Was it slander to ask some questions about the bond deal?

He told you, and you told me that his explanation was that he was only employed by Rhind after the debt was founded, to get his commissions. He said something like this in his first statement, but three days later, at Conway, he said he had been associated with Rhind from the beginning. Is it slander to ask why this contradiction? Then he said he was to get part of the commissions and he hoped it would be \$15,000 or more.

Was it slander to ask what was the nature of his valuable service to raise his hopes to such a dazzling figure?

He had but a natural curiosity to know if he traded with Rhind before he commended him to you. Then was it slander to inquire of the "nature of the trade between them," which you yourself say you "did not know?"

When I said that he (Evans) had recently tried to persuade a party that the impressions or recollection of a former conversation concerning his commission fees was erroneous, was it slander for Gantt to verify the occurrence of such a conversation?

Is it slander to show that while you were chairman of the State board of control, that local insurance was taken by local agents, and that now it is concentrated in the hands of Evans' brother at a higher stock valuation and one-fourth of one per cent. higher rate than offered by Mr. Maxwell? Was it slander to show that he usurped the authority of the board of control when he gave an excuse for not having more meetings "that he and Tompkins and Norton had agreed upon a policy and they had left him to carry it out." Was it slander to bring up the other two members of the board and prove he lied?

Would it be slander to show now that a trick of insurance was resorted to, to anticipate the possible adverse action of the present or new board of control?

Will the dispensary books be sufficient to show that but a few days before the new board took charge and Gov. Evans let go, the unexpired insurance on the dispensaries of the State was cancelled, and all reissued for 12 months?

Was it slander to prove by Attorney Gen. Barber that Evans lied when speaking of the dispensary bill drawn at the last session, he saying there was no previous agreement as to any other proposed bill?

Was it slander to detail his attempt to enrich himself with rebates, and his charge against you, in the presence of an honest man who is ready to verify the truth of it?

Evans knew the truth of my charge, and kept silent, and up to date has not denied it. He may when 'tis too late to contradict him.

I showed sworn copies of his own vouchers on file in the comptroller-general's office, which were charged upon his contingent fund, which showed that he had traveled more than seven thousand miles at public expense in nine months. All know this could not have been on legitimate public business. Let him account for this if he can; if not, keep silent.

I showed that in the passage of the last dispensary law he recommended one thing and tried to do another. Senator Efrid was given as witness in this case.

Now again, Senator Tillman, I shall make you a witness to Evans' veracity. I said at Manning that you said that you advised Evans to put the dispensary in the hands of a separate board, and be rid of the responsibility.

He replied that you had done nothing of the kind, and you knew nothing of it till he told you what he had done. I rose and said I was mistaken. I would correct it when you assured me you had given him that advice during the constitutional convention. Thus you contradicted him. Again, why have you and he so vehemently and recently "damned" if you didn't, and "damned if I did" one another as to the time and place of receiving your letter of advice as to taking no notice of damning charges against Evans?

Sentinel Tillman, I have, from a sense of duty to my State, been impelled to show some very damning facts to the discredit of this young man, and reluctantly I reply to justice at your hands, and now, with not a particle of passion or prejudice against you in this awkward predicament, I challenge you to prove against

me the giving voice to one single falsehood or slander. Let me suggest that the truth may be gotten at by calling a halt just here. Let the governor call an extra session of the general assembly to investigate these matters and I will prove every charge in detail and more than has yet been mentioned. "Let justice be done, though the heavens fall."

I have acted in collusion with no one, but with the help of saving my party from week and my State from disgrace. You can not recommend to a Christian people this protegee of yours as worthy, in a moral way, of their respect. You know him too well for that.

He (Evans) seems to have forgotten that at Cokesbury, his old home, he received not one vote, and that Edgefield, the home of his manhood, went back upon him, and in order to carry Aiken for him, a Conservative and goldbug senator was chosen.

He should not cite Newberry against me, when he knows your (Tillman's) first letter to me and him did that.

Again, Senator, you may remember I said you would have to write another letter to save him. It seems I prophesied aright, as to another letter, at least, but I doubt if you save him.

If you do, take him to Washington and exhibit him as a piece of your handiwork wherein you failed, for you are capable of better things.

He would remind me of the drunkard on a deacon who was delighted to meet with his minister and, reeling, said: "I'm one of your converts." The minister replied: "You look like some of my work. I don't think the Lord had anything to do with you."

Now, Senator, time only can prove who has builded wisely, whether you or I, just now, are doing the best work for the Reform party.

Let me assure you that I am with you on every Reform principle, but cannot become participants criminals by helping to hide the rascality of any man.

I am a friend of the dispensary and shall fight for its preservation, but against its perversion. Evans has struck a more deadly blow than The State, The News and Courier and all its enemies combined, yet it will survive.

I shall stand by Clemson College and that glory of our State and your (Senator Tillman's) greatest monument—the woman's college.

I am ready to enumerate and show to the world the things accomplished by the Reform party, and yet another thing we shall yet boast of—the defeat of Evans, the slanderer, who is now on his knees begging pardon of men whose shoes he is not worthy to unlatch.

Sentinel Tillman, we are yet willing to do much for you, but we cannot be driven to support this unworthy man. You cannot deny that this man has peddled more abuse, slander and vilification and done more to disgrace the State than any man since the days of Scott and Moore. Did you ever hear of a man apologizing to him? No. It is ever he apologizing to some man he has wronged.

We can save the party a great deal easier than you can save Evans and the party.

Let me say that I bear malice towards none and trust that the political atmosphere may be purified by this thunderstorm of startling exposures.

J. T. DUNCAN.

Sewall to Bryan.

CHICAGO, Sept. 3.—Chairman Jones of the Democratic national committee has made public a letter to Wm. J. Bryan from Arthur Sewall, apparently dated July 25, at which time the Populist convention was in session. The letter, which is exciting a great deal of comment, reads as follows:

"My Dear Mr. Bryan: In view of the action of the St. Louis convention today I cannot refrain from giving you my thoughts on the situation."

"My advice is that you have been nominated as candidate for President and Mr. Watson for Vice-President. I also learn through press dispatches that you are somewhat undecided whether you ought to accept or decline. Now, I desire to say to you with the utmost frankness and good feeling, that you must not allow any personal consideration for me to influence you in your action."

"I desire you will do just what you believe is best for the success of the head of our ticket. The principles we are fighting for are so paramount to any personal considerations that the latter should not have any weight or influence whatever with your action. I cannot for a moment allow myself to be a factor in any action on your part that would in the slightest degree hazard an electoral vote for you."

"With kind regards to Mrs. Bryan, believe me, your sincere friend,"

"ARTHUR SEWALL."

"Path. Me., July 25, 1896."

The Democratic managers at headquarters insisted that the letter had no further significance than that Mr. Bryan would consent to receive a formal notification from the Populist party in the near future and the publication was to forestall all rumors as to the attitude of Mr. Sewall to ward off a ceremony.

Accompanying the letter is an unofficial statement to the effect that several days ago Chairman Jones wrote a letter to Mr. Sewall stating that while many Democrats throughout the country, and especially throughout the West, were objecting to fusion with the Populists on electoral tickets for the reason that they did not wish to be disloyal to Mr. Sewall. In reply to Chairman Jones Mr. Sewall forwarded the foregoing copy of the letter written to Mr. Bryan.

The Decision of Judge Simonon.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Aug. 31.—Judge Simonon, of the United States circuit court, to day filed his decision in the now famous railroad cut rate case. The suit, it will be remembered, was an action for injunction brought by the Port Royal and Augusta Railway against the Southern States' Right association to restrain the latter from putting into operation the 80 per cent reduction in freight rates it had declared to meet the Seaboard Air Line's reduction. The hearing took place at Greenville, S. C., some two weeks ago. In his decision today Judge Simonon dissolves the temporary injunction and dismisses the bill. Each side is to pay its own costs.

Five Women Burned to Death.

VANCELOK, Ont., Sept. 3.—The Commercial Hotel, owned by George Constantineau, was partially destroyed by fire last night, and five persons were burned to death. They were Mary Louise Vandaele, Charity Villeneuve, Josephine Deschamps, Mrs. T. Finn and Miss K. McLeod.

THE GOLD MEN MEET.

THEY PUT UP A TICKET TO CATCH DEMOCRATIC VOTES.

President Cleveland and His Administration Endorsed in Glowing Terms—Favors Tariff for Revenue Only, Currency Reform and Economy in Public Expenditures.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Sept. 3.—John M. Palmer of Illinois and Simon Bolivar Buckner of Kentucky, were nominated today by the Bolting Democratic Convention for President and Vice President on a brief but emphatic platform which repudiates the doctrines enunciated by the late Democratic convention; endorses President Cleveland and his administration in glowing terms; declares for the gold standard, tariff for revenue only, liberal shipping laws, currency reform, civil service and economy in public expenditures. The spirit that animated the convention was contained in this declaration of the platform: "The Democratic party has survived many defeats but could not survive a victory won in behalf of the doctrine and policy proclaimed in its name at Chicago."

And so, in the language of Mr. Hammond of Georgia, this convention placed in the hands of other nominees their banner and bade them fling it forth "skyward and seaward, high and low."

The real work of the convention was soon transacted when it was reached, but the delay in reporting the platform gave opportunity for a series of eloquent and stirring speeches. The attendance was larger than yesterday and the enthusiasm was great. Col. W. C. P. Breckinridge, made notorious by his trial and conviction of the seduction of an innocent school girl under promise of marriage, Dewitt C. Warner of New York, H. A. Hammond of Georgia, F. W. Lehman of Missouri, W. D. Bynum of Indiana and Controller of the Currency Eckels of Illinois were in turn called to the stage and stirred the enthusiasm to a high pitch. When the platform was at last brought in shortly before 2 o'clock, after the convention had been in session three hours, it was read amid an almost continuous storm of applause and was adopted unanimously without a word of debate.

When the nominations for President were called for it was apparent that Palmer would be nominated over his protest as the opposition to Bragg has concentrated upon him. These two names were the only ones presented to the convention. It was known that a message from President Cleveland had reached the convention that he could not entertain for a moment the suggestion of his nomination and his decision was at once accepted as final. Before the States were called for nominations Henry Waterson was taken out of the lists by Mr. Carroll of Louisville, who, from the platform, conveyed to the convention a message from the Kentucky editor in his retreat in the mountains of Switzerland. Mr. Waterson, Mr. Carroll said, three days after the Chicago convention had cabled that other candidates must be named or the Democracy was lost. Later he had said he did not want the honor, but that if no one else could be found to take command he would not ask others to go where he would not lead. Now that others were ready to accept he preferred to do battle in the ranks.

Some of the nominating speeches were eloquent and full of fire, L. L. Kilbourne of Michigan placed Senator Palmer in nomination and there was a series of seconding speeches. Burr W. Jones of Wisconsin named General Bragg "the hero of fifty battles" and the commander of the iron brigade. Illinois waited until all the other States had been called. Then Judge Moran of Chicago took the stage and said they had recognized from the first that Senator Palmer was the man to lead the fight. He was, he said, a platform in himself. All his life he had fought flatism, greenbackism, free silver and other vagaries. But he had sealed their lips. After seeing the temper of the convention, however, he said Illinois was compelled to join hands with her sister States in urging his nomination.

The roll call immediately developed an overwhelming majority in favor of Senator Palmer, but it proceeded to the end. Palmer received 757 votes and Bragg 124. At its conclusion, the commander of the iron brigade, mounted a chair and in a brief but graceful speech announced that the nomination was unanimous and pledged that he would be "where brave soldiers should always be"—nearest the flashing of the guns. He was given three hearty cheers and General Palmer was declared the nominee amid an enthusiastic demonstration during which the State guidons were carried about the hall in the wake of the standard of Illinois.

There never was any doubt about General Buckner's nomination for Vice President, except while the nomination was being talked of for Senator Palmer for President. When Chairman Caffery instructed the Secretary to call the States for nomination for Vice President the latter called but one State, "Kentucky," and the band struck up "My Old Kentucky Home." Wm. F. Brodner of Russellville, Ky., placed General Buckner's name formally in nomination was unanimously accepted. After the convention had adjourned Senator Palmer succumbed. He said he would accept. He had never yet failed to respond to the call of duty, he said, and he could not do so now with such a cause at stake.

The Alabama delegation with its band escorted the New York delegation to the state to-night. Governor Folger made two speeches to the crowd, one before starting and one at the station, in which he commended the enthusiasm shown by the people for the ticket nominated to-day.

Governor Jones of Alabama responded in a pleasant vein and the crowd cheered both speakers heartily. The Alabama delegation and its band returned to the Denison and serenaded Generals Palmer and Buckner, both of whom made brief speeches, thanking the band for its attention and the people for their interest in them. A little later the Indiana gold Democrats with a band appeared at the Denison and gave the candidates another serenade. General Palmer responded with a humorous speech saying he came down here to have a jolly good time and talk over old army days with the Hoosiers and while he was talking the convention nominated him for President. While he did not expect to be elected he felt that the convention and every man in it

thought he was the proper man for President of the United States and he would continue to think so. He told one or two humorous stories and was loudly cheered.

General Buckner was then called for and made a more serious address. He said that the convention to day had broken down the partisan walls which had separated the country and had decided that men in any part of the country could hear the standard of Democracy. The candidates of this convention would not go as Bryan does, into an enemy's country, but would go into a united country of patriotic people. Wherever floats the flag of the Union there was the home of Democracy. He expected to do his duty by his country and, old as he was, he would shrink no responsibility.

WHY TILLMAN CHALLENGED.

What Ex-President Harrison Said in Referring to Him.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23.—The Democratic congressional committee furnished the Southern Associated Press with the following telegram today addressed to ex-President Harrison:

"I am Benjamin Harrison, New York City, N. Y."

"I have just spent a week in Pennsylvania speaking to many thousands. Your speech in New York last night attacks me specifically, and I would be pleased to meet you in joint debate before a northern audience, preferably at Indianapolis." "B. R. TILLMAN."

The Columbia State says considerable interest is being taken in the open challenge of ex-President Harrison by Senator Tillman to meet him in joint debate. Tillman said he suggested that the debate take place at Harrison's home purposely. At the same time he has no idea that the challenge will be accepted, notwithstanding the fact that Harrison has dignified him by specially referring to his name in his New York speech. Thus, Tillman says, he cannot say that he can refuse to debate with him. There were two passages in Harrison's speech upon which the challenge was based. One read thus:

"They denounce in their platform interference by Federal authorities in local affairs as a violation of the Constitution of the United States and as a crime against free institutions. Mr. Tillman in his speech approved this declaration. It was intended to be words a direct condemnation of Mr. Cleveland as President of the United States for using the power of the executive to brush out of the way every obstacle to the free passage of the mail trains of the United States and the interstate commerce. And, my friends, whenever the people approve the choice of a President who believes he must ask Gov. Altgeld or any other governor of any other State permission to enforce the laws of the United States we have surrendered the victory the boys won in 1861." (Great applause.)

The other reads thus: "One of the kindest and most discriminating critics who ever wrote with a foreign pen about American affairs, Mr. Bryce, in his American Commonwealth," pointed out this danger that the Constitution did not fix the number of the supreme court judges, and it was possible for a reckless congress and a reckless executive to subordinate and practically destroy the supreme court by the process I have just described, and the Englishman, after speaking of this, says:

"What prevents such assaults on the fundamental law? Nothing but the fear of the people, whose broad, good sense and attachment to the principles of the Constitution may be generally relied on to condemn such a perversion of its powers."

Our English friend did not misjudge, I think, the sound good sense of the American people when an issue like this is presented. Whatever the question is, whether Mr. Bryan's view or Mr. Tillman's view of the Constitutional question shall prevail, or that of the august tribunal appointed by the Constitution to settle it, the curbs are the defenses of the weak. The rich and powerful have other resources, but the poor have not. The high minded, independent judiciary that will hold to the line on questions between wealth and labor, between the rich and the poor, is the defense and security of the defenceless."

Good for the Taxpayers.

COLUMBIA, Sept. 3.—The State Board of Control met last night in regular monthly session. One of the matters in which the public has been interested was the investigation into the conduct of Dispenser Stevenson on occasion of the campaign meeting at Winnsboro. The County Board of Control made a report and was given on last night the board had exonerated Dispenser from the "charges" made against him. The report of the county board was not made public, but it was accepted by the State Board. A matter in which all taxpayers are most interested, however, was the determination of the board to pay into the State Treasury \$100,000 from the accrued net profits of the business. This sum will be paid in four monthly installments, the first payment to be made on October 1. That the board is able to pay this much towards the reduction of taxes will not only be welcomed by the people at large, but is an evidence of the good business principles on which the dispensary is being conducted under the present regime. So far the dispensary has paid directly into the treasury \$50,000 borrowed to start, \$50,000 towards the payment of the expenses of the constitutional convention, which is to be followed by this payment of \$100,000.

Earthquake in Japan.

YOKOHAMA, Sept. 2.—Much alarm is felt over a report here of a great earthquake which occurred in the North-east provinces in the main island of Japan on Monday evening. The town of Rokugo has been entirely destroyed and several other towns severely damaged. Many persons are reported to have been killed by the earthquake and a still larger number injured, while a number have suffered severe losses by damage to property. The provinces visited by the earthquake are the same as those devastated by the terrible earthquake and tidal wave of June 15 last when a large number of towns were wiped out and the estimated loss of life was 30,000. The Provinces of Kuzen and Ikucho, along the coast from the island of Kinkasan, Northward, were the principal sufferers then. The recollection of the havoc to human life wrought by that convulsion causes grave anxiety as to what further reports may show of the results of Monday's earthquake. On the same day a typhoon caused extensive damage in Southern Japan.

TURNING TO BRYAN.

MANY REPUBLICANS LEAVE THEIR PARTY TO SUPPORT HIM.

Straws Showing the Way the Political Wind is Blowing—Democratic Clubs Being Organized in All Sections of the Country.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 30.—As straws which indicate the direction of the political wind, here are a handful of extracts from letters received at Democratic headquarters here to-day:

M. E. Holland, secretary of the Bryan Free Silver Club, of Nebraska, says:

"We have a Bryan free silver club organized here with a membership of 170, and still growing. Seventeen Republicans are among the number."

J. W. Bovgess, president of the Bryan Free Silver Club, of Pax, Mo., says that his club numbers at present 100 members, three-fourths of them being Republicans. Pax is a mining town.

Tom Horton, Kan., W. I. Short, secretary of the W. J. Bryan Free Silver Club, writes:

"We have a club here of 460 members 180 of them Republicans, and we are growing daily. We are organizing free silver clubs in every precinct."

G. H. Morgan, of Frederick, Md., in making application for the Bryan and Sewall Free Silver Club in the national association, says:

"Our club is composed mostly of the working and farming element, among them several Republicans, and it would take a Gatling gun to turn them."

Edward M. Johnson, secretary of the Bryan and Sewall Club, of Elltown, Md., writes:

"There is a strong and growing silver sentiment here, which we wish to promote."

T. B. McJenkin, president of the Bimetallic League, of Butler, Pa., says:

"We have a silver league here, with 700 members, one-fifth of whom were former Republicans."

M. L. Lockwood, of Zellenoep, Pa., writes:

"If there is any such uprising in the Eastern part of this State as there is here we will sweep the State."

Alpheus A. Fidler, of Arlington, W. Va., writes:

"I called a meeting to see if we could not organize a Bryan and Sewall Club out here. Before I could get in the house that night the crowd was calling for a speech. I took a vote to see how many would support Bryan and Sewall and the silver cause. Notwithstanding the crowd was made up of about one-half of men who have